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UNCLAS TEL AVIV 002271

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: GOI ISSUES TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION IN ELKANA
SETTLEMENT

1. (U) The Israel Lands Authority on Monday, June 12, issued a tender for construction of single-family homes on 53 plots in the religious neighborhood of the Elkana settlement near Qalqilya. (Note: Press incorrectly reported 54 units. End note.) According to the tender, the plots range in size from 344 to 540 square meters, The minimum price is NIS 49,000, approximately \$11,000, and the expenditure for development ranges between NIS 256,000 and NIS 328,000, or \$57,000-73,000, depending on the size of the plots. Both plots of land can be leased for 98 years, with an option to extend for an additional 98 years. Buyers can receive informational booklets beginning June 26, and must bid by July 31, 2006.

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JONES